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UTAH NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION SETS RECORD

Oil Production Highest in Decade

(Salt Lake City, Utah) -- Latest data compiled by the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining shows oil and natural gas producers in the state are setting records. Natural gas producers have set an all time production record of 385,159,541 mcf (thousand cubic feet) for the year 2007. That surpassed the previous high record set in 2006 by nearly 29,000,000 mcf. Meanwhile, oil production set a near decade high for the state at 19,519,883 barrels.

Uintah County was the largest producer of natural gas, followed by Carbon, Duchesne, Emery, San Juan and Summit counties. The total number of producing gas wells was 4684.

"This was accomplished by drilling record numbers of wells in the state the last few years," said Gil Hunt, associate director for oil and gas. "Without it production numbers would continue to decline as demand continues to increase."

Oil production also saw an upswing in the year with its highest annual production volume since 1997. Utah's highest production year occurred in 1985 when more than 41-million barrels of crude were produced. Duchesne County took top honors for oil production with more than 7.5 million barrels. Uintah County was second with nearly 5.5 million barrels, San Juan County followed with almost 4-million barrels and Sevier County with 1.8 million barrels. The number of producing oil wells during the year was 2803.

The Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining is charged with regulating and ensuring industry compliance and site restoration while facilitating oil, gas and mining activities. For more information about natural resource development go to www.ogm.utah.gov.

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